



Lewisham  
ISLAMIC CENTRE



2023

Lewisham Islamic Centre  
**ANNUAL REPORT**



Registered Charity Number: 1187279



# Our vision

To provide a **holistic** range of **religious**, **educational** and **social services** for the local **community**

## Our Sponsors



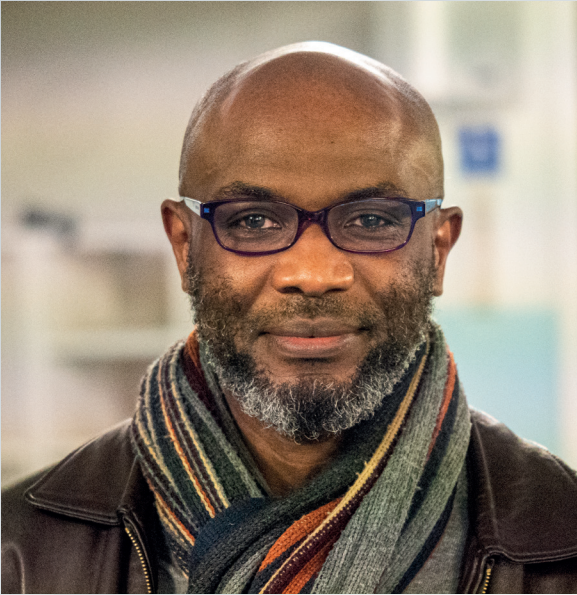


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The Lewisham Islamic Centre has begun collecting donations for the new building project; a purpose-built Mosque and Islamic Centre to better cater for our community's need in Lewisham.

[lewishamislamiccentre.com/donate](http://lewishamislamiccentre.com/donate)





# Taofik Akande

Chair of the Trustees

12 months ago in our 1443 (2022) report forward, we reflected over the importance of Time and how many don't seem capable of finding fulfilment in valuable endeavours due to the "scarcity of time" which results in bewilderment and disappointment. As Muslims, it is not alarmist to remind each other to heed the diminishing sands of time before that final solitary grain trickles out and the inevitable divine decree presents itself.

As ever, Allah's mercy encompasses all things and we forever cling on to that in spite of every shortcoming. The past few years have been an incredible challenge for the global community. Not only are the dire ramifications of Coronavirus still being felt, but fresh misery also erupted in the form of war between Russia and Ukraine, with the catastrophic events spelling unprecedented and far-reaching implications for Europe and the rest of the world. For the first time in many decades, a vicissitude in fortunes means western populations must contend with soaring and unaffordable costs of living. Far-flung corners of the world have also been greatly impacted with the threat of even more severe privations for the world's poorest people, as hunger and malnutrition claim countless lives.

As Muslims, particularly in Europe, who are caught up in any downturn in fortunes, we must remember foremost that "rizq" or provision of any kind is portioned out by Allah Almighty and He increases or decreases it as He wishes (Qur'an 89 v15,16).

Our continued gratitude to Allah for the innumerable blessings we have is paramount and determines our station with Him. My seven-year-old daughter (Allah bless her) loves soft toys, and would give away the very clothes on her back in return for more. However, she understands and concedes that in return for all the soft toys in the world, giving away one of her eyes is a price too great to bear.

"Whatever blessings you have is from Allah." (Qur'an 16 v53)

"And when your Lord proclaimed, 'If you are grateful, I will surely give you more'." (Qur'an 14 v7)

"Wondrous is the affair of the believer for there is good for him in every matter and this is not the case with anyone except the believer. If he is granted goodness, then he thanks Allah and thus there is good for him, and if he is harmed, then he shows patience and thus there is good for him." (Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), Sahih Muslim)

"I am amazed by the believer. Truly, Allah does not decree anything for the believer except what is good for him." (Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), Musnad Ahmad)

Every difficulty brings with it opportunity. Islamic teaching warns against trivialising any good deed, however slight it may seem. As servants of The Most High and The Most Wise, let us show the Almighty that, come what may, we shall continue championing the noblest principles of the Prophets of Allah. Let us show that we are capable and worthy of rising above this latest challenge with the fortitude to continue honouring orphans and widows and aiding the poor despite the hardship we find ourselves.

For any crisis facing the Muslim Ummah, whether locally, nationally, or internationally, turning together to Allah The Almighty must be the first source of refuge. Our Unity as Muslims, the next. An-Naseer (The Helper) is closer to us than our "jugular vein" (Qur'an 50 v16) and ever ready and willing to respond and aid (Qur'an 40 v60). What are we waiting for? We have the formula. We know the answer. However, the first step must be ours.





## Zillur Rahman

Secretary of the Trustees

Islam is a way of life as well as a form of government, a social structure as well as a regulatory norm for interpersonal relationships, and business. It is not something different or from any other aspect of social life. It is a part of human life like any other. Islamic society preserves notions of free enterprise, social solidarity, social responsibility and humanistic concern for all which precedes self-interest.

This year, we have seen the rise in costs of utilities such as electricity and gas. The research, published in the peer-reviewed Ethnic and Racial Studies journal, confirmed the existence of a “Muslim penalty” in the employment market where both Muslim men and Muslim women were found to have significantly greater probability of unemployment than their respective white British Christian counterparts. As such, the cost-of-living crisis will certainly be felt by many Muslim families.

It is circumstances such as these that once again highlight the beautiful teachings of Islam and the solutions that it has for the world. Uthman bin 'Affan (May Allah be pleased with him) reported that the Messenger of Allah (Peace and Blessings be upon him) said:

“There is no right that the son of Adam is more entitled to other than these (four) rights: (1) A home to live in, (2) a garment to cover his nakedness, (3) a piece of bread, and (4) water” [At-Tirmidhi].

The Messenger of Allah (Peace and Blessings be upon him) is talking about rights that we are entitled to that are tangible physical rights from the state.

In another Hadith, it was narrated from Ibn 'Abbas that the Messenger of Allah (Peace and Blessings be upon him) said:

“The Muslims are partners in (co-owners of) three things: water, pasture, and fire - and their price is unlawful” [Ahmed].

Many of the scholars say that with regards to fire, it indicates any natural resources which are used to produce heat and energy, such as wood, coal and oil. We see here that in Islam, these utilities are not to be monopolised by private companies, they should belong to the state for benefit of the people and they cannot be withheld to the disadvantage of the people. In an Islamic model, it is therefore not permissible to adopt the model of liberal privatisation whereby even essential public utilities are sold to private companies and are therefore not available except to those who pay for them- leading to a society where only those with material wealth can access vital services.

The Lewisham Islamic Centre recognises that many from our community (Muslim and non-Muslim) will likely suffer from rise in the cost of utilities/commodities and we will be doing our utmost to help in whatever way we can to support the vulnerable. As such, we started a food bank at the Centre on 1 December 2022, and this will take place on the first Saturday of every month following that. Our winter soup kitchen also took place from 19 December 2022 – 02 January 2023. These services are open to all members of the community irrespective of their faith.

We hope that with your continued support, we can continue to help others.

“LEWISHAM ISLAMIC CENTRE, THE BEATING HEART OF THE MUSLIM COMMUNITY IN THE LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM AND SURROUNDING AREAS.”



# About Us

## Religious Services

Imam Shakeel Begg (Head Imam), who is supported by Imam Sabir Elahi and Imam Ashraf Dabous (Deputy Imams), manages the spiritual and moral development of the community through leading:

- ◆ Daily Prayers, weekly classes, monthly Lectures, Friday and Eid Sermons;

- ◆ Arranging tours for visitors, organising outreach events, holding meetings, weekly Da'wah sessions and annual open days;

- ◆ Imam's Surgery, which includes: counselling, marriage solemnisation, dispute resolution.

## Prayer Facilities

At LIC, we can accommodate an average of 2000 attendees on a Friday (Jumu'ah), which increases during the month of Ramadan. Moreover, Eid in the Park averages 7000 attendees annually. Our Friday sermons (khutbah) are usually delivered by Imam Ashraf (deputy Imam), Imam Sabir (deputy Imam) and Imam Shakeel (Head Imam). On occasion, we have special guest Imams including Shaykh Haitham Haddad. We also encourage and instruct young Khatibs by giving them a platform at LIC to deliver the sermon (khutbah).



## Streaming & Social Media

LIC engages the community through Social Media updates of upcoming events, daily activities and live streams of the weekly sermon. Talks and lectures are regularly uploaded onto various social media platforms (Facebook, Telegram, Twitter, Instagram, and Youtube). This online content is for all to benefit from, but more importantly, it allows LIC to interact with members of the wider community, the local council, elected representatives and other organisations, thereby showcasing the valuable work being done within the community.



Words of Wisdom bookshop – an information hub and one stop shop for Islamic clothing, books and miscellaneous items



## External Services & Businesses

LIC has provided spaces for local businesses to enable them to provide vital services for the community



LIC media Studio – LIC rents the studio as another source of income



An-Nur Gym – providing martial arts and self-defence classes for the public benefit (Muslims and non-Muslims alike), the service caters for males and females and holds special sessions for children



Zaitoon Nursery – a registered preschool for children aged 3-5



# New Development

Finally, after many years and numerous attempts at attaining our vision of the new, fit for purpose, Masjid on paper we can announce that the planning application was submitted on the 12th September 2022.

Since being appointed and working through covid and lockdown our architects bought into our vision and came up with the scheme we have now.

The process did not end there as we had to engage with the planning authority in several pre application meetings in addition to sitting through a design review panel meeting to discuss various aspects of the design.

Each one of those meetings raised different objections to the scheme and so our architect had to tweak the design several times to overcome concerns the planning authority had raised.

Special thanks goes to Br. Afaq and his team for the hard work and dedication they have shown.

Let us all make dua that planning is granted so that the real work of building our new Masjid can begin.  
In shaa Allah.

## “Today's People, Tomorrow's Legacy”

Please support this legacy through your donations:  
**BARCLAYS Bank**  
**Account Name: Lewisham Islamic Centre**  
**Account No: 63402592**  
**Sort Code: 20-18-93.**



## Community Service

# Shahadahs

LIC experiences two to three Shahadahs (people embracing Islam) on a weekly basis, both male and female, who are from various age brackets and ethnicities. Many, who take their shahadah, are from The London Borough of Lewisham and other parts of London.

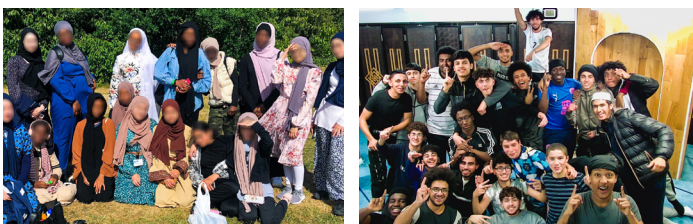


New Muslims are part of the fabric of LIC. Approximately 15% of our regular attendees are converts/reverts to Islam. Some take part in services at LIC such as giving the Adhan (call to prayer), Youth Workers, Social Workers, etc. LIC organises Dinners, Outings, Umrah Trips, etc for the New Muslims in our Community.

## Youth Club

LIC is pleased to announce that we have successfully started a Youth Club for both the boys and girls in our community. We have previously been able to provide services and activities for the boys and are grateful to be able to offer these to the girls now also. In today's society, it can be difficult for some of our youngsters to confidently practice Islam. In starting a Youth Club, we have been able to encourage them to stand proud and embrace their identity as strong and confident Muslims. The Youth Club has done wonders in creating a strong sense of community and raising the self-esteem of our Youth. We kick-started our Girl's Youth Club in April 2022 with our opening Iftar event. The Girls' Youth club hosts an event one Saturday a month; some of their favourite events included bowling, Thorpe Park Resort, and a trip to Flip Out Arena.

We are currently in the process of registering youngsters so, if you are interested in becoming a member of our Youth Club, please do not hesitate to get in touch:  
[youthclub@lewishamislamiccentre.com](mailto:youthclub@lewishamislamiccentre.com)



Alhamdulillah, 1st Lewisham Park Scouts Group reached a significant milestone as it became 10 years old last December. This was possible thanks to the continued support from families, volunteers, LIC management and the wider community. We could not have done it without you and we look forward to the next 10 years.

Our greatest achievement this year was officially opening our Explorer Scout Unit for 15-18 year olds, called "Muhsineen", "those who strive to be the best."

We now have 68 children in our Group, aged from 4 to 18 years old, doing activities like camping, cooking, crafts - all whilst making friends and learning new skills. This helps them with Tarbiyyah, "cultivation of Islamic character," by putting Islam into practice.

The Group is very popular, but our size is limited by the number of volunteers. If you are over 20 and wish to see the Muslim youth of Lewisham thrive, email us and join our team: [scouts@lewishamislamiccentre.com](mailto:scouts@lewishamislamiccentre.com)





## LICFC

LICFC currently have 2 teams. The adult team who are in the Orpington and Bromley district league and a newly formed U9's team in the Selkent league. The adult team didn't have the best of seasons during 2021-22, but we have strengthened our squad to hopefully progress from the poor season we had last year. U9's have had a great preseason and everything is slowly coming together for our first ever u9's team. LICFC have a YouTube channel ([lewishamislamic-centrefc](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UClewishamislamic-centrefc)) and our Instagram page ([@lic.fc](https://www.instagram.com/lic.fc)).

We aim to spread the values of Islam through football, connect Muslim and non-Muslim footballers and give dawah through football.

We want to connect with and produce professional footballers. We also aim to promote healthy living, fitness and strength. We wish to organise training and launch a website soon InshAllah. Over the past year we have worked closely with Nujum, who have similar ethos, goals and ambitions, but on a professional level.

We are always looking for a Video Editor, Coaches, Media assistance and players. We also have a business account and welcome any donations. Please get in touch via Instagram or through the masjid.



# Sisters' Activities

Sisters are very active at LIC. They lead many projects catering for the needs of Sisters and the community at large. LIC has a Mother's & Toddler Group, Sisters' Coffee Morning, Elderly Womens' Group, Educational Classes, Fitness Training, Sisters' Basketball, Dinners, Conferences, etc, for the Sisters in our Community



# Hospital & Hospice Visits

Imam Ashraf Dabous and Shaykh Syed Maqsud Elahi are both NHS Volunteer Chaplains and regularly attend to the needs of patients & staff at Lewisham University Hospital.



# Funeral & Will Services

The LIC Funeral Fund is a community fund that provides the local community with an instalment based plan to help elevate the high funeral costs families have to deal with.





# Outreach Work

LIC is an integral part of the London Borough of Lewisham and beyond. LIC works with many local Agencies and Community Groups in delivering various services to Community Members be they Muslim or non-Muslim.

We strongly believe and try to put into practice these eternal words of our beloved Messenger of Allah (SAW) who said: "The best of people are those that bring the most benefit to the rest of humanity".



## School Visits

Many local Schools Visit LIC and our Imams also visit local schools. Our Imams usually discuss the Five Pillars of Islam and also take part in Interactive discussions with Students. This year we have had 14 School Visits.

## Interfaith Forum

LIC has always been an active member of Lewisham Interfaith Forum (LIF). LIC along with other Faith Leaders organise regular activities that include Peace Walks, Interfaith Faith Discussions, Visits to Local Faith Centres, Press Releases, etc. Imam Shakeel Begg is also the Vice Chair of LIF.



## Workshops & Training

LIC is at the forefront of organising interactive Workshops & Training Sessions that are not only beneficial but relevant to our context and environment. We organised a Workshop on Home Financing as well as a Workshop on the economic crises with Cllr Amanda De Ryk.

## Open Iftar

Every Ramadan we invite our neighbours, Local Faith Leaders, Civic Leaders and Community Leaders to break fast with the Muslim Community inside the Mosque. We usually start this Event with some recitation from The Qur'an and short talks from our Imams, Faith and Civic Leaders. The Mayor of Lewisham, Damien Egan, Father Charles Pickstone of St Laurence Church, Father Steve Hall of St Mary's Church and Gerald Rose of the Catford & Bromley Synagogue have been regular guest speakers at this Event.





# SACRE Meetings

Imam Ashraf Dabous and Shaykh Syed Maqsood Elahi are both LIC representatives at SACRE. They attend the meetings and address religious issues that are connected to the curriculum taught at local Lewisham Schools.

## Feed the Homeless & Food Bank

Our Feed the Homeless Activity started over 5 years ago in Central London, but now our dedicated team of Volunteers focus on local needs. We have a Monthly Food Bank Project and a winter soup Kitchen that provides food items for the needy and elderly neighbours within the local area.



## Information Stall

Lewisham Islamic Centre Volunteers are noticeable every Saturday between 12 noon - 3pm outside of Lewisham Library at our information and dawah stall. We proactively engage the public who may be curious or even skeptical about Islam and Muslims, or who are actively learning about Islam. It offers conversations galore and free Islamic reading material to take away. It is an active way of making our presence as Muslims known and to instill confidence in the public to approach a Muslim and politely ask about our faith and true practices that are so strikingly at odds with what is nominally portrayed in the media.

## Lewisham Works

The Lewisham Works monthly drop advice session at the Masjid (2nd Thursday of each month 1pm – 4:30pm) offers support to Lewisham resident members of the mosque who are seeking support to gain new skills and find employment.

The monthly drop-ins are delivered by Brother Tony Cisse who is both a member of the masjid and works for Lewisham Works. Brothers and Sisters aged 16 – 60+ are welcome to come and find out about the opportunities on offer.

Lewisham Works is a free service for unemployed residents and students which works closely with training partners and businesses to provide pathways into a range of jobs in various sectors.

Since the relaunch of the LIC drop in service in September 2022, people attending the drop in have been able to get a new CV, find work, get on courses, are helped with work clothes and travel costs for a new job. As one member of the masjid said; “Mashallah, I have been supported in applying for and getting a job when I did not know who to go to for help”





# Testimonials from Local & Faith Leaders



“It has been a great pleasure to work with Imam Shakeel for another year. Imam Shakeel has been outstanding in his commitment to building up the local community, and reaching out to welcome members of other faiths, and local people generally. Certainly in my view, and I believe in the opinion of many others, he has played a key role in making Lewisham a good place to live in and to belong to, and indeed, is a local treasure. “

**(The Rev'd Canon Charles Pickstone, Vicar, St Laurence Church, Catford)**



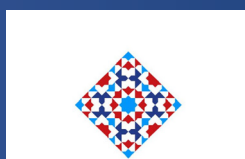
“In Lewisham, our diversity is our strength and I am proud to represent people of many different faiths or none as the MP for Lewisham East. The work of the Lewisham Islamic Centre in promoting inter-faith relations in Lewisham is important as we all work for greater community cohesion. Muslims are guided by a sense of kindness and generosity. It has been wonderful to see these values put into action at the Lewisham Islamic Centre, first by providing hot meals in the local community during the coronavirus pandemic and more recently by launching a food bank for those struggling during the cost-of-living crisis.

**(MP Janet Daby, Member of Parliament for Lewisham East)**



“Lewisham Islamic Centre is not just a place of worship place but an important community hub for the Muslim community of Lewisham. LIC offers a range of weekly activities along with regular prayers, including women fitness classes, over 60's women club, baby toddler's mothers group, youth club and a thriving scout group. Under the leadership of Imam Shakeel LIC has always opened their doors to wider community engagement and interactions ranging from its multi-faith activities, vaccination centre, open kitchen for community in peak of second wave of COVID, and supporting young local people with career guidance. My family and myself find it as our second home due to such a welcoming atmosphere of the LIC.”

**(Cllr Tauseef Anwar, Speaker and Civic Mayor of Lewisham council)**



**Working Partners**



# Highlights

## Feb 22

4 Nikahs  
1 Shahadahs  
1st School Visit Harris Academy  
2nd Muslim and Youth Dinner  
17th Feb Workshop For Sisters  
on Sustainability

## March 22

4 Shahadahs  
3 Nikahs  
28th School Visit  
28th LII Group 1 Fun Day  
31st LII Group 2 Fun Day

## April 22

9 Shahadahs  
4 Nikahs  
25th School Visit  
27th Live Online Appeal  
– raised £160,603.35 in pledges

## May 22

6 Shahadahs  
3 Nikahs  
2nd Eid Al-Fitr – Over 7000 attendees  
7th Eid Fun Day – 100 guests  
7th Scouts Awards  
16th School Visit Stillness Infant  
School  
19th School Visit Coopers Lane  
Primary  
24th School Visit John Ball School  
25th Stand Up to Racism Clock  
Tower George Floyd

## June 22

15 Counselling sessions  
4 Shahadahs  
1 Nikah  
2nd Ugyhur Muslim Talk  
30th School Visit Prendergast  
School

## July 22

15 Counselling sessions  
5 Shahadahs  
2 Nikahs  
8th Arafah Conference  
9th Arafah Conference  
9th Eid Al-Adha – over 5000 guests  
19th Sisters Eid Party

## August 22

9 Counselling sessions  
4 Shahadahs  
5 Nikahs  
8th Ashura Day Lecture  
12th Summer Boys Youth  
Club Trip

## September 22

2 Shahadahs  
4 Nikahs  
5th LIC & LII Staff Dinner  
24th Car Wash  
24th Islamic Finance Discussion  
25th Hifz Ceremony  
28th SACRE Meeting Lee Church  
29th School Visit Stillness School

## October 22

7 Shahadahs  
1 Nikah  
4th School Visit Bartholomew's  
School  
6th School Assembly Rangefield  
Primary  
11th School Visit Bromley Beacon  
Academy  
13th School Visit Knights Academy  
18th School Visit Bromley Beacon  
Academy

## November 22

12 Shahadahs  
3 Nikahs  
8th Interfaith Breakfast  
12th Scouts Sleepover  
15th School Visit  
23rd Economic Crisis Event

## December 22

10 Shahadahs  
9 Nikahs  
3rd Neighbour Discussion Event  
about New Development  
10th NHS Vaccine Clinic  
LIC Winter Events – 500 attendees

## January 23

4 Shahadahs  
1 Nikahs  
6th Stems Donor appeal at LIC  
for Sister Meriem

## February 23

6 Shahadahs  
4 Nikahs  
25th Primary Finance Event

## Ramadan, Fasting & Economic Recession



As Ramadan comes again, another opportunity for sacrifice, reflection and self-education has arrived. This Ramadan seems to have come during a time wherein its lessons are needed most. A time of economic recession in many parts of the world, and at the very least economic struggle in other parts. The question is: what can we learn through Ramadan and fasting that will help us through current and future financial struggles?

Perhaps the most important lesson is self-control and sacrifice. Allah has prescribed upon us fasting as a means of attaining His pleasure through learning how to say no to the self and curb our desires. {O you who believe, the fasts have been enjoined upon you as they were enjoined upon those before you, so that you may be God-fearing}. This is an extremely important facet of piety and an integral ingredient to success in this life. Without the ability to say no to ourselves we will be tempted by sin, and we will be led by our desires. How does this relate to economic difficulties and recession? Through learning to say no to our desires we can learn to suffice with what we need rather than what we want. How much money is spent, and often wasted, on what we want rather than what we need? For those of us living in the west, financial struggles of the kind we are now facing may be novel and uncommon occurrence, but how many of our brothers and sisters globally suffer daily without the ability to acquire their needs whilst we run after our wants? Perhaps through this time we will learn what our needs are so that in the future we can say no to our wants, and instead look after those of our ummah who are in constant need.

Ramadan can also teach us to reflect on the amount of food, drink and water we waste. Yes, these may be needs but excessiveness in what we need should also be avoided. Perhaps our lack of gratitude for the blessings we have has contributed to the current economic difficulties. The society we inhabit subscribes to a consumerist way of life; the centre of focus is what we earn and what we can afford to buy or have. We are constantly reminded about new editions of current devices, yearly alterations to clothes we already own, seasonal fashions replacing current trends, culinary fads to be followed, and new must haves or must tries that we don't currently possess; what does this do to our hearts? It leaves them in a state of dissatisfaction and a lack of contentment with what is whilst constantly yearning for what isn't and what could be. Consumerism leads to a constant want and wish for more, which means we are constantly working to acquire and constantly replacing the seemingly old with new. This is perhaps the main contributing factor to the extreme amounts of petrol, gas, and other irreplaceable energy sources we burn through, leading to a need for more and an increase in costs. Through reflection Ramadan can teach us to think about the way we live and question our own roles in the current economic difficulties we face.

Finally, although there are many lessons to be learned, as a concluding lesson we can look to the sacrifices we make during Ramadan. Sacrifices for Allah's pleasure and a place in paradise. We give up that which is permissible during the day, we give up our time to pray during the night, and throughout the month we give up our wealth to help the needy and the poor. If we can utilise the spirit of sacrifice kindled in Ramadan outside of the blessed month and throughout the rest of the year, then we can help alleviate the burden of the financial struggles we face for others, and in doing so receive Allah's aid in the struggles we face ourselves. Abu Huraira reported: The Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "Allah continues to fulfil the needs of His servant as long as he fulfils the needs of his brother." 2

Ramadan is a time to recharge our spiritual batteries and better connect with Allah, and it also a time of practical learning and development. May Allah allow us to gain closeness to Him whilst we learn and develop ourselves.

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1 Al Baqarah, verse 183, The Quran, Translated by Mufti Taqi Usmani

2 Al-Mu'jam al-Kabir, at-Tabrani



# Book of Allah Almighty & Quran'ic Supplications

by Imam Sayed Maqsud Elahi

## Dua for the children & family

رَبَّنَا هَبْ لَنَا مِنْ أَزْوَاجِنَا وَذُرِّيَّاتِنَا قُرَّةَ أَعْيُنٍ وَاجْعَلْنَا لِلْمُتَّقِينَ إِمَامًا

Our Lord, grant us from among our wives and offspring comfort to our eyes and make us a leader [i.e., example] for the righteous. (Al-Furqan - 25:74)

## Dua for the parents

رَبِّ أَرْحَمُهُمَا كَمَا رَبَّيَانِي صَغِيرًا

“My Lord! Be merciful to them (my parents) as they raised me when I was young.”

رَبَّنَا اغْفِرْ لِي وَلِوَالِدَيَّ وَلِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ يَوْمَ يَقُومُ الْحِسَابُ

Our Lord! Forgive me, my parents, and the believers on the Day when the judgment will come to pass (Ibraheem - 14:41)

## Du'a for one whose affairs have become difficult

اللَّهُمَّ لَا سَهْلَ إِلَّا مَا جَعَلْتَهُ سَهْلًا، وَأَنْتَ تَجْعَلُ الْحَزْنَ إِذَا شِئْتَ سَهْلًا.

O Allah, there is no ease except in that which You have made easy, and You make the difficulty, if You wish, easy (Ibraheem - 14:41)

## Dua for the expiation of sins said at the end of a sitting/gathering....

سُبْحَانَكَ اللَّهُمَّ وَبِحَمْدِكَ، أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ أَسْتَغْفِرُكَ وَأَتُوبُ إِلَيْكَ.

‘How perfect You are O Allah, and I praise You. I bear witness that None has the right to be worshipped except You. I seek Your forgiveness and turn to You in repentance. (Ahmed 6/77)

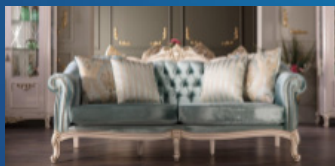
## When Feeling Stressed

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ الْحَلِيمُ الْحَكِيمُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ رَبُّ الْعَرْشِ الْعَظِيمِ

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ رَبُّ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَرَبُّ الْعَرْشِ الْكَرِيمِ

“There is none worthy of worship except Allaah, The Fore-bearing, The All Wise. There is none worthy of worship except Allaah, The Lord of the Exalted Throne. There is none worthy of worship except Allaah, The Lord of the Skies and The Lord of the Earth and the Lord of the distinguished Throne”. [Al Bukhari 8/154]

Day	2023	Fajr		Sunrise	Dhur		Asr		Magrib		Isha	
		Start (End of Sunooh)	Jamat		Start	Jamat	Start	Jamat	Start (Start of Ifaan)	Jamat	Start	Jamat
Wed	22 Mar	4:21	4:30	5:56	12:12	12:45	3:28	4:00	6:19	6:34	7:38	8:00
Thu	23 Mar	4:19	4:30	5:54	12:12	12:45	3:29	4:00	6:21	6:36	7:40	8:00
Fri	24 Mar	4:17	4:30	5:52	12:12	12:45	3:30	4:00	6:23	6:38	7:42	8:00
Sat	25 Mar	4:15	4:30	5:50	12:12	12:45	3:31	4:00	6:25	6:40	7:43	8:00
Sun	26 Mar	5:13	5:30	6:47	1:11	1:30	4:32	5:00	7:26	7:41	8:44	9:00
Mon	27 Mar	5:11	5:30	6:45	1:11	1:30	4:33	5:00	7:28	7:43	8:46	9:00
Tue	28 Mar	5:10	5:30	6:43	1:11	1:30	4:34	5:00	7:30	7:45	8:48	9:00
Wed	29 Mar	5:08	5:30	6:41	1:10	1:30	4:35	5:00	7:31	7:46	8:48	9:00
Thu	30 Mar	5:05	5:30	6:38	1:10	1:30	4:35	5:00	7:33	7:48	8:50	9:00
Fri	31 Mar	5:04	5:30	6:36	1:10	1:30	4:36	5:00	7:35	7:50	8:52	9:00
Sat	1 Apr	5:02	5:30	6:34	1:09	1:30	4:37	5:00	7:36	7:51	8:53	9:00
Sun	2 Apr	4:59	5:15	6:31	1:09	1:30	4:38	5:00	7:38	7:53	8:55	9:15
Mon	3 Apr	4:57	5:15	6:29	1:09	1:30	4:39	5:00	7:40	7:55	8:56	9:15
Tue	4 Apr	4:55	5:15	6:27	1:09	1:30	4:40	5:00	7:41	7:56	8:57	9:15
Wed	5 Apr	4:53	5:15	6:25	1:08	1:30	4:41	5:00	7:43	7:58	8:59	9:15
Thu	6 Apr	4:50	5:15	6:22	1:08	1:30	4:42	5:00	7:45	8:00	9:01	9:15
Fri	7 Apr	4:48	5:15	6:20	1:08	1:30	4:42	5:00	7:46	8:01	9:02	9:15
Sat	8 Apr	4:46	5:15	6:18	1:07	1:30	4:43	5:00	7:48	8:03	9:04	9:15
Sun	9 Apr	4:44	5:00	6:16	1:07	1:30	4:44	5:15	7:50	8:05	9:05	9:30
Mon	10 Apr	4:42	5:00	6:14	1:07	1:30	4:45	5:15	7:51	8:06	9:06	9:30
Tue	11 Apr	4:39	5:00	6:11	1:07	1:30	4:46	5:15	7:53	8:08	9:08	9:30
Wed	12 Apr	4:37	5:00	6:09	1:06	1:30	4:47	5:15	7:55	8:10	9:10	9:30
Thu	13 Apr	4:35	5:00	6:07	1:06	1:30	4:47	5:15	7:56	8:11	9:11	9:30
Fri	14 Apr	4:33	5:00	6:05	1:06	1:30	4:48	5:15	7:58	8:13	9:13	9:30
Sat	15 Apr	4:31	5:00	6:03	1:06	1:30	4:49	5:15	8:00	8:15	9:15	9:30
Sun	16 Apr	4:28	4:40	6:00	1:05	1:30	4:50	5:15	8:01	8:16	9:16	9:40
Mon	17 Apr	4:26	4:40	5:58	1:05	1:30	4:50	5:15	8:03	8:18	9:17	9:40
Tue	18 Apr	4:23	4:40	5:56	1:05	1:30	4:51	5:15	8:05	8:20	9:19	9:40
Wed	19 Apr	4:21	4:40	5:54	1:05	1:30	4:52	5:15	8:06	8:21	9:20	9:40
Thu	20 Apr	4:19	4:40	5:52	1:04	1:30	4:53	5:15	8:08	8:23	9:22	9:40
Fri	21 Apr	4:16	4:40	5:50	1:04	1:30	4:53	5:15	8:10	8:25	9:24	9:40



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Mon to Friday 15:00 to Last Order 22:40  
Sat, Sun 13:00 to Last Order 22:40  
Thank you for supporting & trusting us to become local legend. (Awarded Top Food shop in this area).

The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) said: 'Whoever builds a mosque for the sake of Allah, Allah will build something similar for him in Paradise.'



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0208 694 0001

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TEL: 02086848005



HSBC Bank  
Account Name: Lewisham Islamic Centre  
Account No: 72277719  
Sort Code: 40-04-15





## Children Education (Madarasah)

The Lewisham Islamic Institute has set out clear aims to nurture the next generation of Muslims who will preserve and advocate their religion wherever they go. Moreover, we also wish for students to become outstanding citizens and leaders who mirror the inward and outward character of our Prophet Muhammad (saw) and the vast role models found in our Islamic heritage.

The first aspect of learning Islam can be defined as the "theory", the essential information which all students need to guide them throughout their lives. Our curriculum seeks to develop students' knowledge of Quran, Hadeeth, relevant supplications, Islamic History, Seerah, Fiqh and Prophetic Manners. Additionally, our curriculum intends to be classical yet relevant. This means that we aim to teach with purpose, allowing benefits to be extracted from our classical and contemporary heritage rather than providing bare facts alone.

Therefore, we encourage students to discuss, debate and challenge ideas/ideologies even if they are their own and to critically think about the world around them.

The second principle surrounds the "implementation" of Islam. As an institute we understand the integral importance of learning the theory. However, we also comprehend the futility of the theory being abandoned by its sister called "practice". This point is illustrated by Dr Abdullah Nasih Ulwan in his book "Child Education in Islam" who quotes Sayyid Qutb:

Muhammad (saw) and his companions achieved victory only when they practiced and applied all the teachings of Islam. The Companions of the Prophet (saw) were examples in applying its teachings. When you saw them, you saw Islam. Hence the teachings alone do not change mankind, the Quran alone does not change mankind; and the texts alone don't change mankind. Therefore, the Prophet Mohammad (saw) preferred raising those who applied these teachings above simply making speeches.

Therefore, we intend to nurture students who will become fruits of knowledge rather than mere seeds which without water will never flourish.

Our third principle consists of "teaching" we want our students to become future leaders who go on to teach what they have learnt at LII. Therefore, we aim to attract the best educators to teach our pupils so that our students can mirror them as respected role models, imitating their etiquettes and manners. But it must be noted that not all teaching occurs in classrooms and this is important as many of our students will go on to become scholars, doctors, entrepreneurs, engineers, nurses and head-teachers. However wherever they travel and whatever occupation they choose to hold, we strive for pupils to not only teach through their statements but to remember to also teach through their actions.

## Hifz

Alhamdulillah, At LII hifz section we have about 40 adults & children currently memorising the book of Allah. By the grace of Allah so far 8 children (5 boys & 3 girls) have managed to memorise the entire Quran at the masjid. Among the current cohort of students 3 boys have memorised about 25 ajzaa & are inshaa Allah on their way to become huffazul quran soon. Some of the young huffaz from the masjid have now proceeded to memorise the quran in different rewayah (mode of recitation). They also help the current hifz students in memorising the book of Allah. The Huffaz who have memorised the Quran with us are:

**Muhammad Yusuf  
Zulqarnain Rahman  
Muhammed Delilache  
Zahir Patel**

**Abdelrahmane Delilache  
Taqwa Dehya  
Aasiya Hingorani  
Mutmainnah Adekunte**

## Adult Education

At the Lewisham Islamic Institute, we aim to revive the Sunnah of the Prophet Muhammad (saw) by nurturing adult learners who will go on to be educated representatives of the Deen of Allah (swt).

We currently deliver classes covering the following:

- Arabic Language
- Quran (Tajweed)
- Quran (Beginners)
- Quran (Memorisation)
- Islamic Studies (2 year structured course)

We aim to expand and enhance our teaching platform by conveying classes in Adab, Fiqh, Usool Al Fiqh, Seerah, Tafseer, Uloom Al Quran, Mustalah Al Hadeeth, Nahu, Sarf, Balagah and more. Moreover, we wish to cater our classes to the entire community which is why we endeavour to establish structured courses/programmes which commence at a beginners level and continue on to an advanced stage.

Ultimately, our aim is to disseminate tailored courses by qualified instructors who comprehend the challenges and solutions for Muslims residing as minorities in the West.





## Friday Collection

As a growing and thriving Centre, funding is paramount and 99% of the Centre's income is generated from the Muslim community. The majority of this comes from weekly collections after Friday prayers which on average has increased to £3,200 per week compared to the 2021 where the average was £2,700 per week. In addition to cash collections, we are using SumUp machines that allow the attendees to simply tap/touch their payment cards and donate with ease. Moreover, three charity boxes with PDQ devices at the entrance to the Centre encourages attendees to donate.

## Standing Orders

Supplementary income for LIC comes from standing order mandates. We collect £2360 in standing orders every month. If you would like to make regular donations through standing order, refer to the back page of the annual report.

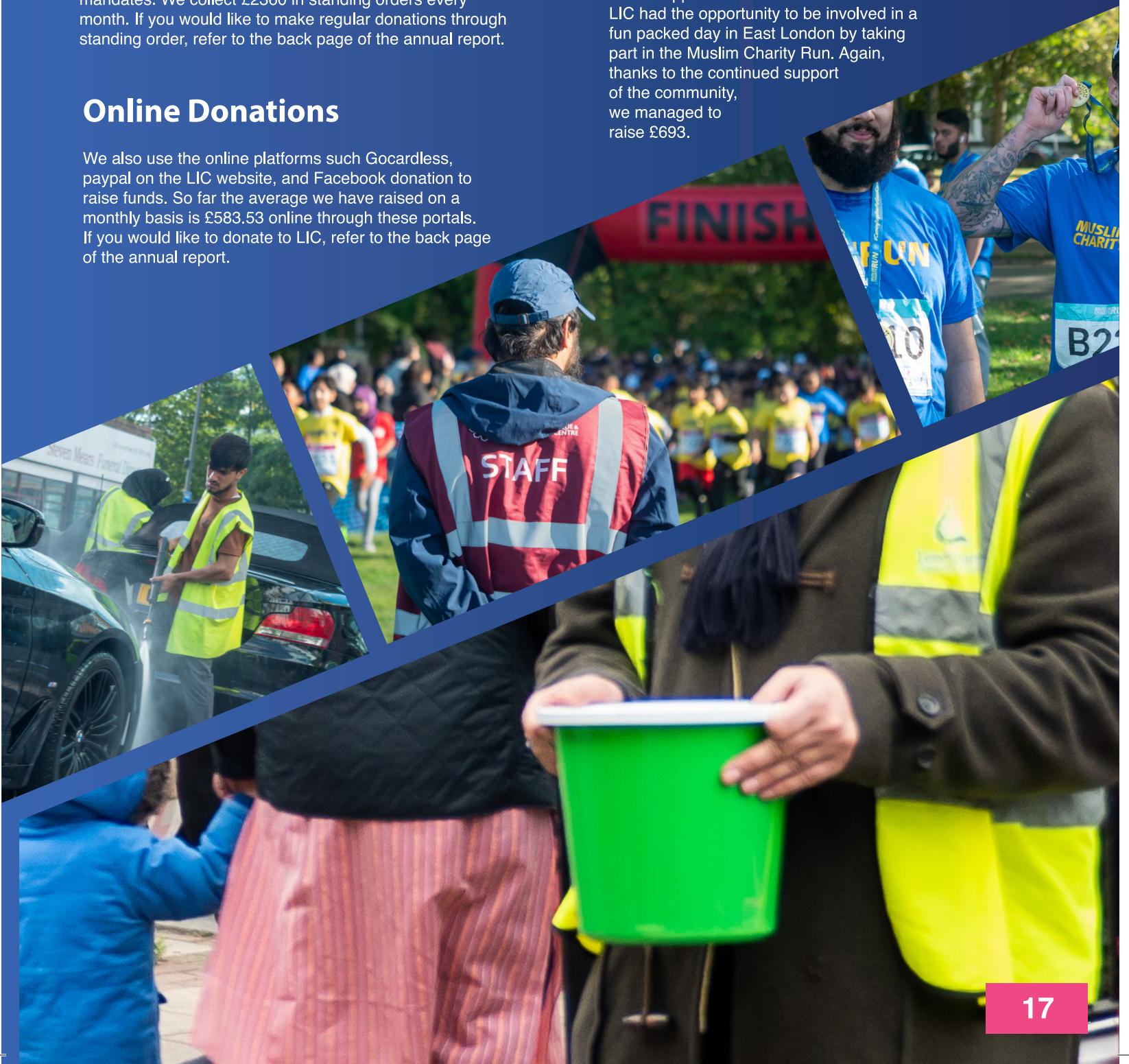
## Online Donations

We also use the online platforms such Gocardless, paypal on the LIC website, and Facebook donation to raise funds. So far the average we have raised on a monthly basis is £583.53 online through these portals. If you would like to donate to LIC, refer to the back page of the annual report.

## Fundraising for the New Development

On the 27th night every Ramadan, an online /onsite fundraiser is held to realise the vision of leaving a Legacy through the development of a purpose built mosque and Islamic Centre in the London borough of Lewisham. Money pledges are collected where attendees are not in a position to donate lump sums, and these pledges are redeemed over specified period of time. The event is live streamed on YouTube where viewers are encouraged to donate online or via phone. This past Ramadan, we raised £160,603.35 as pledges and so far £115,605.35 has been collected.

LIC also held a car wash fundraising event which, in turn further increased the funds directed towards our new development. The car wash fundraiser had a brilliant turn out and many neighbours and community members came out to support us. This enabled us to raise £590. LIC had the opportunity to be involved in a fun packed day in East London by taking part in the Muslim Charity Run. Again, thanks to the continued support of the community, we managed to raise £693.





Lewisham Islamic Centre  
**Summary From Audited Accounts**  
Ending 31st August 2021

**INCOME**

General Donations	137,271
New Mosque Funds	139,793
Gift Aid & Grants	42,673
Rental Income	32,965
Fund Raising & Other activities	24,953
Funeral fund	2,950

**TOTAL INCOME** **380,605**

**EXPENDITURE**

Staff Costs	124,125
Premises Expenses including Repairs	27,147
Events and Outreach work	19,924
Professional fees including Auditors	9,812
Fund raising expenses	5,349
Bad Debts	4,965

**TOTAL EXPENDITURE** **191,322**

## Statement from Finance Officer

We would like to take this opportunity to say Jazaka'Allah khayran to the community for their continuous support and generous donation that has helped us maintain and run the masjid efficiently.

Yacine Delilache



# Meet the staff & volunteers



**Imam Shakeel Begg**  
Head Imam



**Imam Ashraf Dabous**  
Deputy Imam



**Imam Sabir Elahi**  
Deputy Imam



**Genk Kani**  
Centre Coordinator



**Mohammed Jama**  
Centre Administrator



**Imran Miah**  
Events Coordinator



**Bilal Smith**  
Media Officer



**Mamadou Aliou**  
Caretaker & LII Teacher



**Makama Ibrahim**  
Security Officer



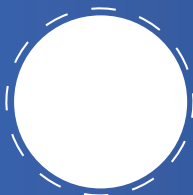
**Ibrahim Barry**  
Caretaker



**Kamel Belamou**  
Caretaker



**Abdul Majid King**  
LII Head Teacher



**Seren Erdel**  
Deputy Head of LII



**Jahanara Begum**  
LII Administrator



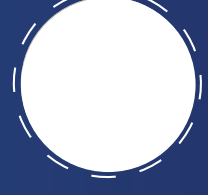
**Ahammed Hussain**  
Scouts Leader



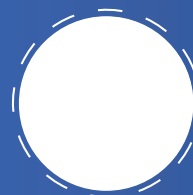
**Clara Biagiotti**  
Sister Exercise Instructor



**Saika Hussain**  
Mother & Toddler Leader



**Rumana Begum**  
Volunteer Leader  
(Sisters' Coffee Group)



**Ifrah Ali**  
Volunteer Leader  
(Sisters' Coffee Group)



**Mariam Payman**  
Youth Club Leader



**Nailah Lemonious**  
Volunteer Leader  
(Sisters' Basketball Club)



**Rena Hussain**  
Volunteer Leader  
(The Elderly Group)



**Tony Cisse**  
Lewisham Works Volunteer



**Yacine Delilache**  
Finance Officer

**Rana Chowdhury**  
LICFC Coach



The late

## Ghulam Shabbir

Inna lillahi wa inna ilayhi rajiun.

We were very saddened to learn, this year, of the death of our former trustee and Chair, Ghulam Shabbir. He will be sorely missed by all those who had the privilege of knowing and working with him.

We remember Uncle Shabbir as a truly respected and influential community leader who worked tirelessly in the service of a Muslim community that grew perennially to huge numbers. He injected focus, determination and, above all else, accountability, into the running of a growing community. He was a true and sincere man who carried out his duties in a collaborative and excellent spirit.

We send our condolences to his family and ask Allah (SWT) to give him Jannatul-Firdous.



# Thank you

From Imam Shakeel Begg



Alhamdulillah (Praise be to Allah) another Year and LIC is still progressing with many more services and activities. This progression is due to our dedicated team of Trustees, Staff, Volunteers and a very supportive & united Community and thus, I thank them all and ask Allah to reward them with goodness.

A very warm gratitude to our New Head of Lewisham Islamic Institute (LII), Mr Ibraheem Abdul Majid King along with his Deputy, Sister Seren Erdel. Both have taken LII to a very high standard of learning and management. The LII now has over 400 children and over 50 Adults studying at the Institute.

With our Media Officer, Bilal Smith, LIC has now started to produce quality media productions and we would like to thank Brother Bilal for his dedication to LIC's vision.

A special thanks to Sister Saika (Head of our Mother's & Toddlers Group), Sister Rumana & Sister Ifrah (Heads of our Sisters' Coffee Morning), Sister Clara (our Sisters' Fitness Instructor) Sister Nailah (Head of Sisters Basketball) and Sister Rena (Head of our Elderly Women's Group).

We cannot forget our Youth Club Leaders who with very limited resources, and often with their own finances, have been able to organise regular services & activities for our Youth. A special thanks to Sister Mariam Payman (Chair), Imran Miah (Treasurer), Mohammed Jama (Secretary) and Jacob (Volunteer) Batuhan Yildirim (Volunteer) Our Scout Leader, Ahammed Hussain has always been a great inspiration and support for LIC and the Scouts Programme. We would like to thank him for his dedication to LIC Scouts.

With the great links between various faith communities in The London Borough of Lewisham I must thank our Local Faith Leaders that have worked with me, trusted me and supported the work of LIC. Special thanks to: Father Charles Pickstone, Father Steve Hall, Gerald Rose and Alastair Cutting (Archdeacon of Lewisham & Greenwich).

Thanks and Gratitude is extended to Lewisham Council, especially the Mayor Lewisham, Damien Egan and the Deputy Mayor, Brenda Dacres.

Lastly, and most importantly, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to our Community who have always supported LIC through Duas (supplications), donations and volunteering. LIC's achievements are by Allah's Favour and from your support – may Allah Almighty bless you all and reward you all with the best of rewards.



“Whoever builds a masjid seeking the face of Allah thereby, Allah will build for him a place like it in Paradise.” (Sahih al-Bukhari)

# DONATE

Support Lewisham Islamic Centre by donating

The Lewisham Islamic Centre has begun collecting donations for the new building project; a purpose-built Mosque and Islamic Centre to better cater for our and our community's need in Lewisham.

Donate using our website:

[lewishamislamiccentre.com/donate](http://lewishamislamiccentre.com/donate)



## NEW BUILDING

BARCLAYS Bank  
Account Name:  
Lewisham Islamic  
Centre  
Account No:  
63402592  
Sort Code: 20-18-93

## GENERAL DONATIONS

HSBC Bank  
Account Name:  
Lewisham Islamic  
Centre  
Account No:  
72277719  
Sort Code: 40-04-15

## CONTACT US



[lewishamislamiccentre.com](http://lewishamislamiccentre.com)



0208 690 5090



[info@lewishamislamiccentre.com](mailto:info@lewishamislamiccentre.com)



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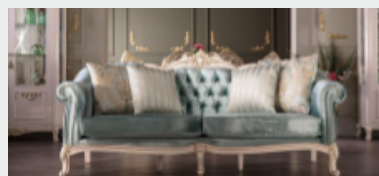
LOCAL

The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) said: 'Whoever builds a mosque for the sake of Allah, Allah will build something similar for him in Paradise.'



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